

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A processing apparatus for video and or audio signals comprising:

a first module having a controller coupled to a signal processor having a signal processing characteristic selected from a plurality signal processing characteristics stored in a non-volatile memory; and,

a second module coupled to said first module and having a specific input output signal coupling characteristic,

~~wherein~~ said controller ~~determines~~ comprising means for determining said input output signal coupling characteristic of said second module, ~~and in accordance therewith~~ selects means for selecting, from said plurality of signal processing characteristics stored in said non-volatile memory, a signal processing characteristic for said signal processor.

2. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said controller determines said input output signal coupling characteristic of said second module during a power up sequence.

3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second module comprises a personality pin coupled to said first module to enable detection of said input output signal coupling characteristic by said controller.

4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said controller determines said input output signal coupling characteristic of said second module by measurement of a coupling node.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said controller determines said input output signal coupling characteristic of said second module in accordance with a potential at a node between said first and second module.

6. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said controller determines said input output signal coupling characteristic of said second module by measurement and comparison with a lookup table.
7. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second module comprises only passive electronic circuitry.
8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein other ones of said plurality signal processing characteristics stored in said non-volatile memory correspond with other ones of said second module each having different input output signal coupling characteristics.
9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second module comprises passive and active electronic circuitry.
10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said active electronic circuitry is functionally configurable.
11. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first module has an audio signal processing characteristic.
12. (currently amended) A processing apparatus for video and or audio signals, comprising:
 - a first module having a controller coupled to a memory and to a signal processor having a signal processing characteristic determined by one of a plurality of processing characteristics stored in said memory; and,
 - a second module having a second signal processing characteristic;
 - ~~wherein~~ said controller ~~determines~~ comprising means for determining said second signal processing characteristic of said second module, and ~~retrieves~~ means for retrieving from said plurality of processing characteristics stored in said memory, a processing

characteristic for said signal processor in accordance with said determined signal processing characteristic of said second module.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein other ones of said plurality processing characteristics stored in said memory correspond with other ones of said second module each having a different signal processing characteristic.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said controller determines said signal processing characteristic of said second module by measurement of a second module identifier during a power up sequence.

15. (currently amended) A processing apparatus for video and or audio signals comprising:

- a network interface;

- a controller coupled to said network interface;

- a memory coupled to said controller; and,

- a signal processor coupled to said memory, said signal processor having a signal processing characteristic determined in accordance with a characteristic stored in said memory,

~~where in accordance with a signal from said network interface,~~ said controller accesses comprising means for accessing, in accordance with a signal from said network interface, from a plurality of characteristics stored in said memory, a characteristic specific to said processing apparatus.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein access to ones of said stored plurality of signal processing characteristics is limited to only said specific characteristic.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said plurality of characteristics stored in said memory enable differing levels of signal processing complexity by said signal processor.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein access to ones of said stored plurality of signal processing characteristics is in accordance with said processing apparatus selling price.
19. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15, where in accordance with a second signal from said network interface said controller enables unlimited access to ones of said stored plurality of signal processing characteristics.
20. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said memory containing said plurality of signal processing characteristics is alterable in accordance with a second signal from said network interface.
21. (currently amended) A method for configuring a multi-function signal processing apparatus for users requiring less than all available functions, comprising the steps of:
storing a signal processing characteristic for each of said available functions; and,
enabling access to at least a predetermined one of said plurality of signal processing characteristics, all remaining ones of said plurality of signal processing characteristics being non-accessible,
subsequent to said storing and enabling steps, said signal processing apparatus being operable only with said at least predetermined one of said plurality of signal processing characteristics.
22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, comprising the step of:
implementing said enabling step in a field programmable gate array.
23. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said enabling step comprises the step of inhibiting access to all but said at least predetermined one of said plurality of signal processing characteristics.

24. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said enabling step comprises the step of enabling said at least predetermined one of said plurality of signal processing characteristics to be read during a power up condition of said apparatus.